

This amendment is submitted to insure that the claims, as renumbered, depend from the appropriate claim as renumbered. A minor change has also been made to claim 56 to eliminate "and/or". It is possible that the Examiner has made these changes already, so this amendment may not need to be entered.

Any fees due to enter this amendment may be charged to deposit account number 50-0624.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked Up Claims

45. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [42] 43, wherein the resilient material is formed of molybdenum.

46. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [43] 44, wherein the resilient material is formed of molybdenum.

49. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [46] 47, wherein the sleeves are formed of molybdenum.

50. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [47] 48, wherein the sleeves are formed of molybdenum.

53. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [50] 51, wherein the graphite is a graphite paper.

55. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [52] 53, wherein at least one of a noble metal paste or a metallic coating applied to the ends of the heating element is placed between the graphite and the heating element.

56. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [53] 54, wherein at least one of a noble metal paste [and/]or a metallic coating applied to the ends of the heating element is placed between the graphite and the heating element.

57. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [54] 55, wherein the metallic coating is formed of nickel or a noble metal.

58. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [55] 56, wherein the metallic coating is formed of nickel or a noble metal.

59. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [54] 55, wherein the metallic coating is applied galvanically.

60. (Amended) An infrared radiator according to claim [55] 56, wherein the metallic coating is applied galvanically.

65. (Amended) A method for operating an infrared radiator according to claim [62] 63, wherein the heating element is heating to a temperature greater than 1500°C.

66. (Amended) A method for operating an infrared radiator according to claim [63] 64, wherein the heating element is heating to a temperature greater than 1500°C.